202 Vanderbilt Hall Harvard Medical School Boston 15, Massachusetts January 7, 1961

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Genetics Stanford University Medical Center Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you for your letter, and I appreciate your offer. I apologize for my delay in answering--I finally had a chance during Christmas vacation to consider my plans for the summer.

I am afraid that time limitations make it necessary for me to decide against working in your laboratory this summer. I must take the National Board Exams late in June, and I couldn't possibly do research for more than a two month period this summer. In view of the nature of your offer, and in full agreement with your point of view, I have decided to try to make other plans.

I do want to assure you of my interest in the field of "immunological physiology" and the problem of humoral and cellular defense mechanisms, and I hope that in the future I will have the opportunity to do research in this field for a longer period of time, possibly in a postdoctoral position.

Again, thank you for your generous offer.

Sincerely yours,

John Mendelsohn